In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 15, 17, 18, and 19 as indicated below. A complete listing of claims follows.

1. (Currently amended) A system, comprising:

a server ~~that, during operation, executes~~ configured to execute an application;

a stateless client ~~that, during operation, communicates~~ configured to communicate with said server, ~~and further configured~~ such that during use, a user interacts with ~~said~~ the application ~~that executes on the server by interacting with the~~ via said stateless client; and

a mass storage device locally coupled to said stateless client, wherein ~~during operation,~~ said mass storage device is ~~accessible~~ accessed by said user via said server;

wherein ~~during operation,~~ said server ~~is further configured to~~ stores data to said mass storage device via said stateless client in response to said user's interaction with said application.

2. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said mass storage device is locally coupled to said stateless client via a Universal Serial Bus (USB) or IEEE 1394 interface.

3. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said mass storage device employs magnetic media, optical media, or solid-state storage media.

4. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein during operation, the server detects a hotplugging event generated in response to disconnection

of the mass storage device from the stateless client. ~~said mass storage device employs optical media.~~

5. (Currently amended) The system as recited in claim [[1]] <u>4</u>, wherein <u>in response to detecting the hotplugging event, the server marks resources associated with the mass storage device as deleted or stale, such that disconnection of the mass storage device is visible to the application.</u> ~~said mass storage device is a solid-state mass storage device.~~

6. (Original)   The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said server is further configured to provide a kernel execution mode and a user execution mode, and wherein said server is further configured to execute a storage service daemon, wherein said storage service daemon executes in user execution mode.

7. (Previously presented) The system as recited in claim 1, wherein said mass storage device comprises one or more unit interfaces, wherein each unit interface comprises one or more logical units (LUNs), and wherein each logical unit comprises one or more partitions.

8. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

~~executing an application on a server;~~

a user interacting with ~~said~~ <u>an</u> application <u>that executes on a server, wherein the user interacts with the application</u> via a stateless client ~~configured to~~ <u>that</u> communicate<u>s</u> with said server;

said user accessing a mass storage device via said server, wherein said storage device is locally coupled to said stateless client; and

said ~~server storing data to said~~ mass storage device storing data, said data being received from said server via said stateless client in response to said user interacting with said application.

9. (Previously presented) The method as recited in claim 8, wherein said mass storage device is locally coupled to said stateless client via a Universal Serial Bus (USB) or IEEE 1394 interface.

10. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 8, wherein said mass storage device employs magnetic media, optical media, or solid-state storage media.

11. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim 8, further comprising disconnecting the mass storage device from the stateless client. ~~wherein said mass storage employs optical media.~~

12. (Currently amended) The method as recited in claim [[8]] 11, further comprising indicating a hotplugging event to the server in response to disconnection of the mass storage device, wherein upon processing of the hotplugging event by the server, disconnection of the mass storage device is visible to the application. ~~wherein said mass storage device is a solid-state mass storage device.~~

13. (Original) The method as recited in claim 8, wherein said server is further configured to provide a kernel execution mode and a user execution mode, and wherein said server is further configured to execute a storage service daemon, wherein said storage service daemon executes in user execution mode.

14. (Previously presented) The method as recited in claim 8, wherein said mass storage device comprises one or more unit interfaces, wherein each unit interface comprises one or more logical units (LUNs), and wherein each logical unit comprises one or more partitions.

15. (Currently amended) A computer-accessible storage medium ~~comprising~~ that stores program instructions, wherein the program instructions, when executed by a server: ~~are computer-executable by a server to~~:

detect the presence of a mass storage device locally coupled to a stateless client; and

interface said mass storage device to an application ~~executable~~ that executes on said server;

wherein a user interacts with said application via said stateless client, ~~and~~ wherein during operation, said mass storage device is accessed ~~accessible~~ by said user via said server; and

wherein the program instructions, when executed ~~are further executable~~ by the server, further ~~to~~ store data to said mass storage device via said stateless client in response to said user's interaction with said application.

16. (Previously presented) The computer-accessible storage medium as recited in claim 15, wherein said mass storage device is locally coupled to said stateless client via a Universal Serial Bus (USB) or IEEE 1394 interface.

17. (Currently amended) The computer-accessible storage medium as recited in claim 15, wherein said mass storage device employs magnetic media, optical media, or solid-state storage media.

18. (Currently amended) The computer-accessible storage medium as recited in claim 15, wherein to detect the presence of the mass storage device, the program instructions, when executed by the server, detect a hotplugging event generated in response to coupling of the mass storage device to the stateless client. ~~said mass storage device employs optical media.~~

19. (Currently amended) The computer-accessible storage medium as recited in claim [[15]] 18, wherein in response to detecting the hotplugging event, the program instructions, when executed by the server, create a device interface through which the mass storage device is visible to the application. said mass storage device is a solid-state mass storage device.

20. (Previously presented) The computer-accessible storage medium as recited in claim 15, wherein said server is configured to provide a kernel execution mode and a user execution mode, and wherein said program instructions are further executable to implement a storage service daemon, wherein said storage service daemon executes in user execution mode.

21. (Previously presented) The computer-accessible storage medium as recited in claim 15, wherein said mass storage device comprises one or more unit interfaces, wherein each unit interface comprises one or more logical units (LUNs), and wherein each logical unit comprises one or more partitions.